



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

***Raised Bill No. 246***

LCO No. 2015



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ZERO-TOLERANCE SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT ACT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 53a-61aa of the general statutes is repealed and  
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 (a) A person is guilty of threatening in the first degree when such  
4 person (1) (A) threatens to commit any crime involving the use of a  
5 hazardous substance with the intent to terrorize another person, to  
6 cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public  
7 transportation or otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or  
8 (B) threatens to commit such crime in reckless disregard of the risk of  
9 causing such terror, evacuation or inconvenience; (2) (A) threatens to  
10 commit any crime of violence with the intent to cause evacuation of a  
11 building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation or  
12 otherwise to cause serious public inconvenience, or (B) threatens to  
13 commit such crime in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such  
14 evacuation or inconvenience; [or] (3) commits threatening in the  
15 second degree as provided in section 53a-62, as amended by this act,

16 and in the commission of such offense [he] such person uses or is  
17 armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by [his]  
18 such person's words or conduct that [he] such person possesses a  
19 pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun or other firearm; or (4)  
20 violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection with the intent to cause  
21 an evacuation of a building or the grounds of a public or nonpublic  
22 preschool, school or institution of higher education during preschool,  
23 school or instructional hours or when a building or the grounds of  
24 such preschool, school or institution are being used for preschool,  
25 school or institution-sponsored activities. No person shall be found  
26 guilty of threatening in the first degree under subdivision (3) of this  
27 subsection and threatening in the second degree upon the same  
28 transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both  
29 such offenses upon the same information.

30 (b) For the purposes of this section, "hazardous substance" means  
31 any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter  
32 which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or  
33 infectious characteristics, may cause or significantly contribute to an  
34 increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or  
35 incapacitating reversible illness, or pose a substantial present or  
36 potential hazard to human health.

37 (c) Threatening in the first degree is a class D felony, except that a  
38 violation of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section is a class C  
39 felony.

40 Sec. 2. Section 53a-62 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
41 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

42 (a) A person is guilty of threatening in the second degree when: (1)  
43 By physical threat, such person intentionally places or attempts to  
44 place another person in fear of imminent serious physical injury, (2)  
45 (A) such person threatens to commit any crime of violence with the  
46 intent to terrorize another person, or [(3)] (B) such person threatens to

47 commit such crime of violence in reckless disregard of the risk of  
 48 causing such terror, or (3) violates subdivision (1) or (2) of this  
 49 subsection and the person threatened is in a building or on the  
 50 grounds of a public or nonpublic preschool, school or institution of  
 51 higher education during preschool, school or instructional hours or  
 52 when a building or the grounds of such preschool, school or institution  
 53 are being used for preschool, school or institution-sponsored activities.

54 (b) Threatening in the second degree is a class A misdemeanor,  
 55 except that a violation of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this  
 56 section is a class D felony.

57 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) The Board of Pardons and  
 58 Paroles shall grant an absolute pardon to any person who applies for  
 59 such pardon with respect to a conviction of a violation of subdivision  
 60 (4) of subsection (a) of section 53a-61aa of the general statutes, as  
 61 amended by this act, or subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 53a-  
 62 62 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, if (1) such person  
 63 committed such offense prior to attaining the age of eighteen years, (2)  
 64 at least three years have elapsed from the date of such conviction or  
 65 such person's discharge from the supervision of the court or the care of  
 66 any institution or agency to which such person has been committed by  
 67 the court, whichever is later, (3) such person has no subsequent  
 68 juvenile proceeding or adult criminal proceeding that is pending, (4)  
 69 such person has attained the age of eighteen years, and (5) such person  
 70 has not been convicted as an adult of a felony or misdemeanor during  
 71 the three-year period specified in subdivision (2) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	53a-61aa
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	53a-62
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase the penalties when a threat involves a preschool, school or an institution of higher education and to provide for an automatic pardon for certain persons who make such a threat prior to attaining the age of eighteen years.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*